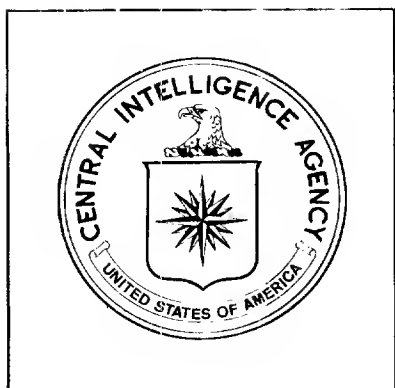


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WESTERN EUROPE — CANADA — INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS

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Consensus Unlikely in UN-Cyprus Debate

Debate on the Cyprus question begins this week in the UN General Assembly amid signs that the parties concerned will not be able to agree on a resolution as they did in 1974, calling for withdrawal of Turkish troops from the island and return of Greek Cypriot refugees to their homes. The Turks and Greeks come to the UN this year with diametrically opposed positions, which could be further hardened by acrimonious debate. This would impede the resumption of the intercommunal talks--where the problem must ultimately be solved.

The Greeks and Greek Cypriots view the UN debate as a prime opportunity to move the Cyprus issue out of the regional arena--where Turkey's military dominance gives it the upper hand--to an international forum they see as more sympathetic to their side. They seek a detailed hearing of their position and will probably urge censure of the Turks for not implementing previous UN resolutions.

Cypriot Foreign Minister Christophides has indicated that he will ask for a resolution calling for prompt withdrawal of Turkish troops from Cyprus, return of Greek Cypriot refugees to Turkish-held areas, criticism of Turkey for blocking progress toward a settlement and fostering the "colonization" of areas of the island under Turkish control. While Athens and Nicosia feel that these points must be made in debate, they probably would settle for a resolution somewhat less critical of the Turks.

The Turks, who want the debate to be largely pro forma, hope to focus international attention once again on regional efforts to deal with the Cyprus question. The Turkish UN delegation has

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already lobbied extensively for a brief, non-substantive resolution, stressing the need to continue and revive the intercommunal talks. The Turks oppose reaffirmation of the resolution passed last year, which they helped draft, but now regret.

The tone of the debate will probably reflect the increasingly anti-Turkish mood at the UN. The General Assembly's desire last year to nurture the intercommunal talks by not pressing the Turks has given way to exasperation with the Turkish position. Those non-aligned countries that worked out the compromise resolution last year have agreed to try again if asked by the Greeks and Turks, but there are strong doubts that the gap can be bridged at this session. (CONFIDENTIAL)

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Greenland National Council Claims Control of
Mineral Resources

Greenland's local governing authority, the National Council, unanimously adopted a resolution on October 28 challenging the Danish government's control over the territory's mineral resources.

The Sujumut, Greenland's radical youth movement, was the force behind the declaration. A growing worry for the Danes, Sujumut has been gaining influence during the past two years and now controls nearly 50 percent of the Greenland National Council. Control of underground resources, including the possibility of valuable oil deposits, is one of the radicals' major demands.

Mineral resources have become a sticky issue between Denmark and Greenland. The Danish Mining Act of 1965 specifically states that Greenland's underground resources belong to Denmark. Moreover, the Danes hope that exploitation of Greenland's oil reserves will eventually offset Copenhagen's \$130 million annual subsidy to its overseas province.

In Greenland, the control of natural resources is linked to the home rule issue. A recent report prepared by a Greenland commission appointed to study home rule recommended that control of underground resources be turned over to local Greenland authorities. The National Council's action will probably force the 16-member home rule committee, recently created by Denmark to oversee the gradual transfer of most powers by 1979, to give top priority to the resource issue. The Danes clearly do not intend to allow the Greenlanders to claim control of underground resources as part of an eventual home rule package.
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Signs of Political Discontent in Spain

The Communists reportedly have appealed for a general strike through the Communist-dominated clandestine Workers' Commissions, calling for "democratic action to mobilize the masses."

According to a non-Communist labor leader, a date for the strike has not been set, but a week to ten days after Franco's death is the most likely choice. Most of the non-Communist elements in the Workers' Commissions as well as other clandestine labor groups allegedly oppose the strike call, indicating that it is likely to be a failure. Only in Barcelona and Madrid, where Communist cadres have control over workers in some factories is there likely to be a positive response. A strike would be likely to provoke police repression and strengthen the far right.

The strike call may be an effort by the Communists to regain their revolutionary image. They apparently feel they were tarnished by their participation in the recent joint declaration of leftist opposition groups, which did not reject Juan Carlos as king.

A sudden crackdown on the Spanish press, meanwhile, is likely to have raised political tensions. Several weekly magazines that had urged reform have been seized, and over the weekend the editor of the prestigious Madrid daily Ya was charged with attacking the constitution. The charge stemmed from an article published last week calling on Juan Carlos to form a government representative of all political sectors. Some observers interpreted the article as a call to legalize the Spanish Communist Party.

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The leader of the Spanish Episcopal Conference, Cardinal Tarancon, issued a statement supporting the article. One of the authors of the article told the US embassy that this latest example of censorship was indicative of the information ministry's difficulties in rationally handling the press. He claimed it had not been a high level decision by Juan Carlos or his advisors.

Recent incidents of arrests and detentions of students and moderate oppositionists, if they continue, will make it more difficult for the moderate opposition to hold to its decision to give Juan Carlos a "period of grace" in which to move toward liberalization.

Labor minister Suarez told Ambassador Stabler that the arrests did not reflect a hard-line attitude at the upper levels of government. He attributed the actions to the "policeman in the street" who is used to having his own way for the past 35 years.

In a grim reminder that violent confrontations can be sparked by extremists of both left and right, masked gunmen, believed to be extreme rightists, broke into a meeting in a Madrid law office and pistol whipped six lawyers representing groups in the two leftist coalitions and two Venezuelan newsmen. Likewise, gangs armed with chains last week attacked student demonstrators at the universities of Zaragoza and Valencia. The students had led a peaceful protest against provisions of the projected law on labor relations which would require periods of low pay internships for professional graduates. Newspaper accounts identified the gangs as rightist bully boys. (CONFIDENTIAL)

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